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Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

	Application No.	Applicant(s)
Office Action Summary	10/628,954	KUSTERER ET AL.
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Nicholas Augustine	2179	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE <u>3</u> MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.
- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1)☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on <u>21 August 2007</u>.

2a)☐ This action is **FINAL.**   2b)☒ This action is non-final.

3)☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4)☒ Claim(s) *4-10,13-18,21,25-31 and 34-36* is/are pending in the application.

    4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.

6)☒ Claim(s) *4-10,13-18,21,25-31 and 34-36* is/are rejected.

7)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.

8)☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9)☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10)☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a)☐ accepted or b)☐ objected to by the Examiner.

    Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

    Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).

11)☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

12)☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

    a)☐ All   b)☐ Some * c)☐ None of:

      1.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.

      2.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____ .

      3.☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

    * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

1)☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)

2)☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)

3)☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)
    Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ .

4)☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
    Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ .

5)☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application

6)☐ Other: _____ .

DETAILED ACTION

A.   This action is in response to the following communications: Request for

Continued Examination filed 08/21/2007.

B.   Claims 4-10, 13-18, 21, 25-31, and 34-36 remain pending.

C.   Claims 34-36 being independent.

D.   Claims 1-3, 11-12, 19-20, 22-24, and 32-33 have been canceled.

E.   New independent claims 34-36 have been added.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

1.   The following is a quotation of the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

> The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly
> claiming the subject matter which the applicant regards as his invention.

2.   Claims 4,5,8 and 10 recite the limitation "method" in line 1. There is

insufficient antecedent basis for this limitation in the claim.

3.   Claims 13-17 and 21 recite the limitation "portal system" in line 1. There is

insufficient antecedent basis for this limitation in the claim.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

4.   The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35

U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this

Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

5.   Claims 4-10, 13-18, 21, 25-31, and 34-36 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Polizzi et al. (US 6,643,661 B2). Herein referred to as Polizzi

Summary

Polizzi teaches a system that is designed to connect a plurality of users to a portal system so that users can access and process data that is stored therein. The system may also be connected to one or more back-end databases so that a user can view, process data that is stored therein (col.3, lines 62-67). The portal thus provides a one-stop interface for accessing, processing, and proving a wide variety of data to a plurality of users (col.4, lines 13-16). By using the portal system as a common interface, data can be retrieved from the back-end databases and presented to the user in a standardized format through the web client 115. For example, a user 100 may request that the portal system 120 produce a graph illustrating the enterprise's manufacturing yield over the past year. Upon receiving the request, the portal system 120 would retrieve yield data from manufacturing back-end database 135 and process that data to generate a bar chart corresponding to the user's request. This bar chart would then be

presented to the user 100 through his browser program. That same user 100 may also request, during the same session, an update of the sales figures for the enterprise for the current month. The portal system 120 would retrieve sales data from the sales back-end database 145, process that data, and generate a figure corresponding to the user's request. This data would then be presented to the user 100 through his browser program. The portal system 120 has the ability to simultaneously perform each of these tasks and present this data to the user 100 with a single interface (col.4, lines 65-67 and col.5, lines 1-17; therein Polizzi provides a system for accessing different application sources for processing a task and presenting both task results back to the users portal interface).

Definitions

Within the portal system are:

::These definitions are defined in columns 5-7::

Service broker 125: which controls access to the portal system 120 by users 100 and controls the disposition of jobs to the service agents within the portal system.

Service agents 130: are configured to perform specific tasks within the portal system, they include: and event server 215, an authentication server 220, a name server 225, a job server 230, a repository 235, and a knowledge server 240 that includes a search server 245 and a crawl server 250.

Event Server 215: schedules events, such as jobs, for processing in the portal system 120 on a predefined timetable.

Authentication server 220: used to determine if a particular user should be granted access to the portal system 120. The permissions and group memberships for a particular user are also stored in the authentication server 220.

Name server 225: the storage location for configuration information about all of the other service agents. For example, if the service broker 125 needs to know the location of a specific job server 230, then the name server 225 will provide that information to the service broker 125.

Job server 230: used to execute jobs in the portal system 120. In addition, the job server 230 can retrieve data from a back-end database 200, 205 or 210 to be processed for a particular job. Each job server 230 may be connected to at least one back-end database 200, 205 or 210 in order to retrieve data therefrom. The job server 230 may also be a stand-alone unit, which process jobs that do not retrieve data from any external sources.

Repository 235: used as a storage device for all information that is to be stored in the portal system. All computer files that are stored in the repository 235 are called objects.

Objects: include HTML files, job output reports, executable job files (SQL, etc.), image files, etc. Objects that are stored in the repository 235 are arranged in a hierarchy called categories. Within each category, both objects and subcategories may be stored.

<u>Categories</u>: are organized in a tree system much like the file system on a standard computer. In addition, each object in the repository may include more than one version.

<u>Version:</u> versioning can be used to accomplish a variety of objectives including setting multiple security levels for different versions of an object, and allowing a user to see a modification history of an object.

<u>Knowledge server 250</u>: provides the search and channel functions for the portal system 120. The knowledge server 250 is comprised of two components: a search server 245 and a crawl server 250.

<u>Crawl server 250</u>: uses one or more crawlers to analyze and index specific information that is stored in the repository 235, a company intranet, or the Internet. A crawler can be configured to search only in certain locations in the repository 235, a company intranet, or the Internet for information to be indexed. Depending upon the settings of the crawl server 250, an information source will contain an index of objects found both within the portal system (i.e. in the repository 235), or outside the portal system (i.e. on an intranet or the Internet). The crawl server 250 is capable of indexing structured and unstructured data.

<u>Indices</u>: are produced by the crawl server 245 are stored in the knowledge server 240 in files called information sources.

<u>Search server 245</u>: uses the information sources produced by the crawl server 250 to conduct searches on behalf of a user.

<u>Redundant service agents</u>: for processing user requests.

<u>Jobs</u>: retrieve data from the back-end databases 200, 205 & 210 and process that data to generate an output report. Jobs may also be used to process data that is resident within the portal system 120. For example, jobs could include a weekly report on manufacturing statistics for the enterprise, or a report describing the current status of the enterprises' accounts receivable. Because these jobs utilize data that is retrieved directly from the back-end databases, the output reports generated by these jobs reflect an up-to-the-minute status of the corresponding aspect of the enterprise.

<u>Subscriptions</u>: a module that allows users to subscribe to a particular object or category that is stored in the repository 235.

<u>Exceptions</u>: a condition that is tied to the results of a job. Commonly found on an exceptions dashboard.

<u>Channel</u>: an abstract of a search, which was created by the user that has been stored in the repository for processing at a later data.

As for dependent claim 4, Polizzi teaches the method of claim 34, further comprising accepting one of the plurality of navigation connectors at the navigation service by receiving a registration request from a the one of the navigation connectors connector for a given application (col.9, lines 3-1; wherein the user defined a link to an application source to which this link is stored on the repository; col.10, lines 27-28), receipt of the registration request resulting in the navigation service having an identifier for the one of the navigation connectors

given connector (col.10, lines 50-51 and 56; wherein when a user adds an object,

it will be placed in the repository with a unique identifiers (assigned to a specific

category or subcategory) this connector information is stored and accessed by

the name server), and receiving the navigation information receiving the

navigation nodes from the one of the navigation connectors given connector, as

defined by the navigation object model, the received navigation nodes including

the connector identifier (col.10, lines 27-35 and col.5, lines 64-65).

As for dependent claim 5, Polizzi teaches the method of claim 4, further

comprising selecting the one of the plurality of navigation connectors to contact

based on one of the connector identifiers. (col. 9, line 56 and col.10, line 51;

wherein the user can select any of the objects presented on the portal page

(fig.10) at which the service broker (125) handles the request of calling the

objects from the repository (235) wherein each object is identifiable with the

name server 225)

As for dependent claim 6, the method of claim 34, further comprising providing a

unified navigation area by displaying a navigation window in a portal

presentation, the navigation window including navigation links to resources of the

different application sources, the navigation links being organized according to

the united navigation hierarchy (fig.10; wherein it is depicted of the organization

of the user customized portable page at which each object is organized in a

hierarchy (col.5, line 65), also note that the user as evident from figure 10 has a

list objects to which are in hierarchy as depicted from item (1001)).

As for dependent claim 7, Polizzi teaches the method of claim 34, further comprising: receiving a navigation action; and changing at least one of the navigation nodes in accordance with the received navigation action (col.21, line 56; wherein the user is placing a navigation action to the service broker to change the portal page at which the action of editing and adding to the portable page as noted in above claims).

As for dependent claim 8, Polizzi teaches the method of claim 34, wherein uniting the navigation hierarchies further comprises merging at least two navigation objects from the different application sources based on a merge identifier (col.22, lines 33-36 and figure 10; wherein the user can merge object onto a display area as depicted by figure 10 and described as mentioned by reference in col.22).

As for dependent claim 9, Polizzi teaches the method of claim 8, wherein the united navigation hierarchy comprises a graph of linking relationships among navigation objects (wherein it is evident that the portal page can display a wide arrange of objects that included being of (presentation graphics, executable jobs such as brio reports, oracle reports, SAP reports to which is known in the art which can execute a graph showing linking relationships. Also note col.11, line 4 for the similar graphing of linking relationship).

As for dependent claim 10, Polizzi teaches the method of claim 34, wherein uniting the navigation hierarchies further comprises dynamically loading the united navigation hierarchy (col.23, line 46).

As for dependent claim 13, Polizzi teaches the portal system of claim 35, wherein the navigation connectors include connector identifiers that are included in the navigation nodes to provide the navigation information (note the analysis of claim 4 above).

As for dependent claim 14, Polizzi teaches the portal system of claim 35, wherein the navigation connectors generate the navigation nodes according to the navigation object model to provide the navigation information, the navigation nodes including at least one merge identifier that indicates similar content in two navigation nodes from different application sources and that results in a merger of the two navigation nodes (note the analysis of claims 35 and 8 below and above respectively).

As for dependent claim 15, Polizzi teaches the portal system of claim 35, wherein the navigation nodes include a linking relationship to other nodes that are not in a parent child relationship in the homogeneous view of the navigation information (personal dashboard, wherein on is displayed nodes which are apart of the linking relationship which are displayed to the user homogeneously by user custom tailored which depicted in figure 10 is non-parent child relationship. Also

note that if the user decided to do so this could view much like a parent child relationship).

As for dependent claim 16, Polizzi teaches the portal system of claim 35, wherein the navigation service module is configured to read data from the different application sources using the navigation connectors but not to write data to the different application sources using the navigation connectors (col.9, line 3; as previously discussed Polizzi teaches the personal dashboard to be configured to display connectors to metadata from the internet in which turn this data is being read and not written to. He also explains how there are permissions that set certain rules on items one being the restriction of writing or deleting a connector).

As for dependent claim 17, Polizzi teaches the portal system of claim 35, wherein the navigation service module dynamically loads a united navigation hierarchy when providing the homogeneous view of the navigation information (note the analysis of claim 10 above).

As for dependent claim 18, Polizzi teaches the portal system of claim 17, wherein a role editor allows setting a node as a new root of the united navigation hierarchy for display for users that belong to a role (col.20, lines 61-62; wherein the user defines the root node of the object in the hierarchy to be displayed, such that when the user logs into the system they will be presented with the root node

first, so thus by allowing to change this first display object is essentially changing

the root node in the hierarchy, also note the above teachings of the hierarchy).

As for dependent claim 21, Polizzi teaches the system of claim 35, wherein the

navigation service module further comprises INavigationService means for

abstracting navigation operations, the connector interface comprises

1NavigationConnector means for plugging an application into the

INavigationService means, and the navigation data interface comprises

INavigationNode means for accessing navigation information from the different

application sources (col.9, line 53; the service agents: service broker, knowledge

server, search server, crawl server, event server, authentication server, name

server, job server, network server; wherein each of the above mentioned agents

provide the means described in claim 21).

As for dependent claim 25, Polizzi teaches the article of claim 36, further

comprising accepting one of the plurality of navigation connectors at the

navigation service by comprises receiving a registration request from a the one of

the navigation connectors connector for a given application (col.9, lines 3-1;

wherein the user defined a link to an application source to which this link is

stored on the repository; col.10, lines 27-28), receipt of the registration request

resulting in the navigation service having an identifier for the one of the

navigation connectors, (col.10, lines 50-51 and 56; wherein when a user adds an

object, it will be placed in the repository with a unique identifiers (assigned to a

specific category or subcategory) this connector information is stored and accessed by the name server) and said receiving the navigation information by receiving the navigation nodes; from the one of the navigation connectors as defined by the navigation object model, the received navigation nodes including the connector identifier (col.10, lines 27-35 and col.5, lines 64-65).

As for dependent claim 26, Polizzi teaches the article of claim 25, wherein the operations further comprise selecting a the one of the plurality of navigation connectors to contact based on one of the connector identifiers (col.22, line 37 and figure 10)

As for dependent claim 27, Polizzi teaches the article of claim 36, further comprising providing a the unified navigation area displaying a navigation window in a portal presentation, the navigation window including navigation links to resources of the different application sources, the navigation links being organized according to the united navigation hierarchy (fig.10; wherein it is depicted of the organization of the user customized portable page at which each object is organized in a hierarchy (col.5, line 65), also note that the user as evident from figure 10 has a list objects to which are in hierarchy as depicted from item (1001)).

As for dependent claim 28, Polizzi teaches the article of claim 36, wherein the operations further comprise: receiving a navigation action; and changing at least one of the navigation nodes in accordance with the received navigation action (col.21, line 56; wherein the user is placing a navigation action to the service

broker to change the portal page at which the action of editing and adding to the portable page as noted in above claims).

As for dependent claim 29, Polizzi teaches the article of claim 36, wherein uniting the navigation hierarchies further comprises merging at least two navigation objects from the different application sources based on a merge identifier (col.22, lines 33-36 and figure 10; wherein the user can merge object onto a display area as depicted by figure 10 and described as mentioned by reference in col.22).

As for dependent claim 30, Polizzi teaches the article of claim 29, wherein the united navigation hierarchy comprises a graph of linking relationships among navigation objects (wherein it is evident that the portal page can display a wide arrange of objects that included being of (presentation graphics, executable jobs such as brio reports, oracle reports, SAP reports to which is known in the art which can execute a graph showing linking relationships. Also note col.11, line 4 for the similar graphing of linking relationship).

As for dependent claim 31, Polizzi teaches the article of claim 36, wherein uniting the navigation hierarchies further comprises dynamically loading the united navigation hierarchy (col.23, line 46).

As for independent claim 34, Polizzi teaches a portal system comprising:
an integration layer (a category stored in the repository 235) comprising a navigation service module that defines a connector interface (figure 3 and col.10, lines 27-45; the name server is a registrar of all connections within the portal

system, for example the name server stores the information which connects (or

creates and outputs connectors/connections) jobs to applications, back-end

databases, users, the service broker, etc, thus the name server is a central

registration component that determines and keeps track of connectors/

connections/ links); a data layer comprising a plurality of application sources and

an equal number of navigation connectors to the navigation service, each one of

the plurality of application sources providing one of the navigation connectors by

implementing the defined connector interface and by generating one or more

navigation nodes that represent data objects in the each one of the plurality of

application sources (figure 2,3 and 7; col.5, lines 50-51 and col.17, lines 24-65;

wherein a user has a link displayed on their portal web page which is a link to a

job for reporting sales figures for the quarter. That job link is connected to a job

server where the job server is connected to an application/ program source along

with other information pertaining to the job server. The request to process the job

is handled by the service broker at which all of these connections are handled by

the name server which functions as a connector interface for connecting the

portal elements together by creating, deleting, updating connectors on an ad-hoc

basis) and a presentation layer (115) comprising one or more navigation

applications that obtain navigation information from the navigation service, the

navigation service uniting the navigation nodes provided by the plurality of

navigation connectors to provide a homogeneous view of navigation information

from the plurality of application sources by uniting navigation hierarchies from

each of the plurality of application sources into a united application hierarchy

(figure 10; col.7, lines 65-67; col.8, lines 1-21; col.11, lines 42-46; col.22, lines 33-64).

As for independent claim 35, Polizzi teaches a method comprising: operating one or more navigation applications in a presentation layer of a navigation model architecture, a navigation service in an integration layer of the navigation model architecture, and a plurality of application sources in a data layer of the navigation model architecture (note the analysis of claim 34; wherein explained are the integration layer, data layer and presentation layer and how applications are handled in each layer); implementing a connector interface defined by the navigation service on each of the plurality of application sources to provide one navigation connector to the navigation service for each of the plurality of application sources, each navigation connector providing one or more navigation nodes that represent data objects in the one of the plurality of application sources that implements the navigation connector (figure 2,3 and 7; col.5, lines 50-51 and col.17, lines 24-65); and uniting the navigation nodes to provide, via the one or more navigation applications, a homogeneous view of navigation information from the plurality of application sources by uniting navigation hierarchies from each of the plurality of application sources into a united application hierarchy ("personal dashboard"; col.22, lines37-64, wherein the user has the ability to customize their dashboard to have certain objects displayed).

As for dependent claim 36, Polizzi teaches an article comprising a machine-

readable medium storing instructions operable to cause one or more machines to

perform operations comprising: operating one or more navigation applications in

a presentation layer of a navigation model architecture, a navigation service in an

integration layer of the navigation model architecture, and a plurality of

application sources in a data layer of the navigation model architecture (note the

analysis of claim 34; wherein explained are the integration layer, data layer and

presentation layer and how applications are handled in each layer); implementing

a connector interface defined by the navigation service on each of the plurality of

application sources to provide one navigation connector to the navigation service

for each of the plurality of application sources, each navigation connector

providing one or more navigation nodes that represent data objects in the one of

the plurality of application sources that implements the navigation connector

(figure 2,3 and 7; col.5, lines 50-51 and col.17, lines 24-65); and uniting the

navigation nodes to provide, via the one or more navigation applications, a

homogeneous view of navigation information from the plurality of application

sources by uniting navigation hierarchies from each of the plurality of application

sources into a united application hierarchy by merging two or more of the

navigation nodes from two or more of the application sources that are related to a

same issue ("personal dashboard"; col.22, lines37-64, wherein the user has the

ability to customize their dashboard to have certain objects displayed, thus the

user is able to "merge" per se anything object wise to the personal dashboard or

even other areas of the portal system web page such as areas:

1001,1015,1020).

(Note:)   It is noted that any citation to specific, pages, columns, lines, or figures in the prior art
references and any interpretation of the references should not be considered to be limiting in any way. A
reference is relevant for all it contains and may be relied upon for all that it would have reasonably suggested to
one having ordinary skill in the art. In re Heck, 699 F.2d 1331, 1332-33, 216 USPQ 1038, 1039 (Fed. Cir. 1983)
(quoting In re Lemelson, 397 F.2d 1006,1009, 158 USPQ 275, 277 (CCPA 1968)).

Response to Arguments

Applicant's arguments filed 08/21/2007 have been fully considered but

they are not persuasive.

Applicant argues that Polizzi does not teach the amended claims (page 8

of amendment).

Examiner does not agree, please refer to the new analysis of the

amended claim language. Also note the summary and term definitions for better

understanding of the citations provided in the claim analysis.

Conclusion

The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to

applicant's disclosure. Prior art cited is related to graphical user interfaces for

presenting information sources to a user or group of users, (i.e. portal systems).
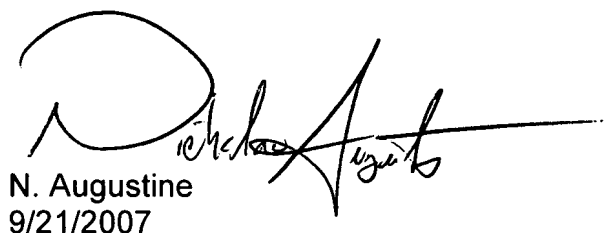
Inquires

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Nicholas Augustine whose telephone number is 571-270-1056. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday - Friday: 7:30- 5:00.
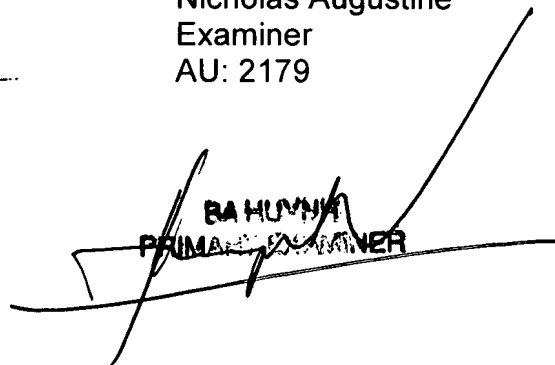
If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Weilun Lo can be reached on 571-272-4847. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see http://pair-direct.uspto.gov. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

N. Augustine
9/21/2007

Nicholas Augustine
Examiner
AU: 2179

BA HUYNH
PRIMARY EXAMINER